

# *Dressage* SA

## President's Report on the activities of the 2021 year



MAY  
2022



Dear Members,

Thank you once again for your continued support. This last year has been particularly difficult for everyone, with not only the COVID pandemic to contend with but also the 2021 July unrest and now the devastating floods in KZN. Our thoughts are with everyone who has been affected by these events.

DSA, despite keeping the fees low is still in a strong financial position and I would like to thank Carol Pickering, Debbie Hunt and Peter Schalkwijk for keeping our finances in order. Debbie deserves a special thanks for managing the office on her own and dealing with all situations that arise.

Caroline Potts and Ute Schutz retired from judging last year, and I would like to thank them for their years of dedication and massive contribution to dressage in South Africa.

Sue Horne who stood in for Caroline, and the National Judges Committee, have put many hours into judges' education in the last year and we are now offering online exams to complement our existing program. Claire Nadin has done an excellent job managing the provincial judges by organising sit-ins, shadow judging, exams and furthering the education of our provincial judges.

Our coach and rider online education system is in progress and attendance has surpassed all expectations. The program is self funding and does not rely on DSA for financial assistance. I would like to thank Regula Niehus and her coach mentor team for the amazing job that they are doing with their technical skills series. Please click [here](#) for more information.

The 2021 SA Championships was held at KPC after a year's break due to COVID, and despite restrictions it was a well supported, well organised show. Many thanks to the KPC team.

The Youth Championships were held at Mistico. Thanks go out to the organisers who despite the uncertainty with the spike in COVID at the last minute, ensured that the show was a great success.

The 2021 DSA Challenge was as popular as ever and I would like to thank the judges, Debi van Wyk and Moya Truter for their patience with the on/off dates, cancelled flights and general chaos caused by COVID.

South Africa was very thrilled to have Tanya Seymour and her Stallion Ramoneur 6 qualify for Tokyo Olympics as well as Philippa Johnson-Dwyer and her horse Just in Time and Cayla van der Walt and Daturio II for the Paralympics.

Tragically Ramoneur developed laminitis in Tokyo and was unable to compete. Philippa and Cayla rode beautiful tests and made us all proud

I would like to sincerely thank the sponsors of all our DSA events, of whom there are too many to name. Your support is appreciated by everyone and vital to the continuation of the sport.

Last but not least thanks to the riders. Your dedication is inspiring. Despite all of the challenges mentioned you are still out there striving to improve and lift the standard of dressage in SA.

Dianne Smith  
President